

CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST

Vol. 21, No. 5

TORONTO 2, CANADA

June 1st, 1929

"YOU WERE MEANT FOR ME!"



All America
is singing the
hit songs from
"The Broadway
Melody"

*It's music to the box-
office when you play:*

**THE BROADWAY MELODY
THE TRIAL OF MARY DUGAN
THE IDLE RICH**

M-G-M



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CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST COMPANY LIMITED
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METRO-GOLDWYN-M

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It insures the same quality of sound reproduction in the theatre that goes into the recording of all these productions in the studio.

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Northern Electric Company Limited

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J. McMILLAN, General Manager of Telegraphs, Montreal.

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57 RNC

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21 WILTON SQ

WE ARE PLEASED TO BE ABLE TO ADVISE THAT THE QUEBEC BOARD OF CENSORS AFTER GOING TO NEW YORK AND INVESTIGATING FOUR DIFFERENT MAKES OF TALKING MOTION PICTURE EQUIPMENT HAVE TODAY PLACED THEIR ORDER WITH US FOR POWERS CINEPHONE STOP INSTALLATION WILL BE MADE WITHIN ONE MONTH

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243P

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BOARD OF CENSORS OF MOVING PICTURES
OF THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

MONTREAL, May 18, 1929

Cinephone

Sound

Mr. Perkins,
Perkins Electric Co. Ltd.,
2027 Bleury Street,
Montreal.

Dear Sir:

I am sending you enclosed certified copy and also translated copy of the letter I have received from Honourable L. A. Taschereau, Premier Minister of the Province of Quebec, authorizing me to buy, at the price of _____ the machine No. 1 mentioned in your previous letters (the machine with double amplifier).

Yours very truly,

R. de R. de Sales

RdeS:GR

President.

(Original letter on file at our Montreal Office)

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RAY LEWIS
Editor and Managing Director

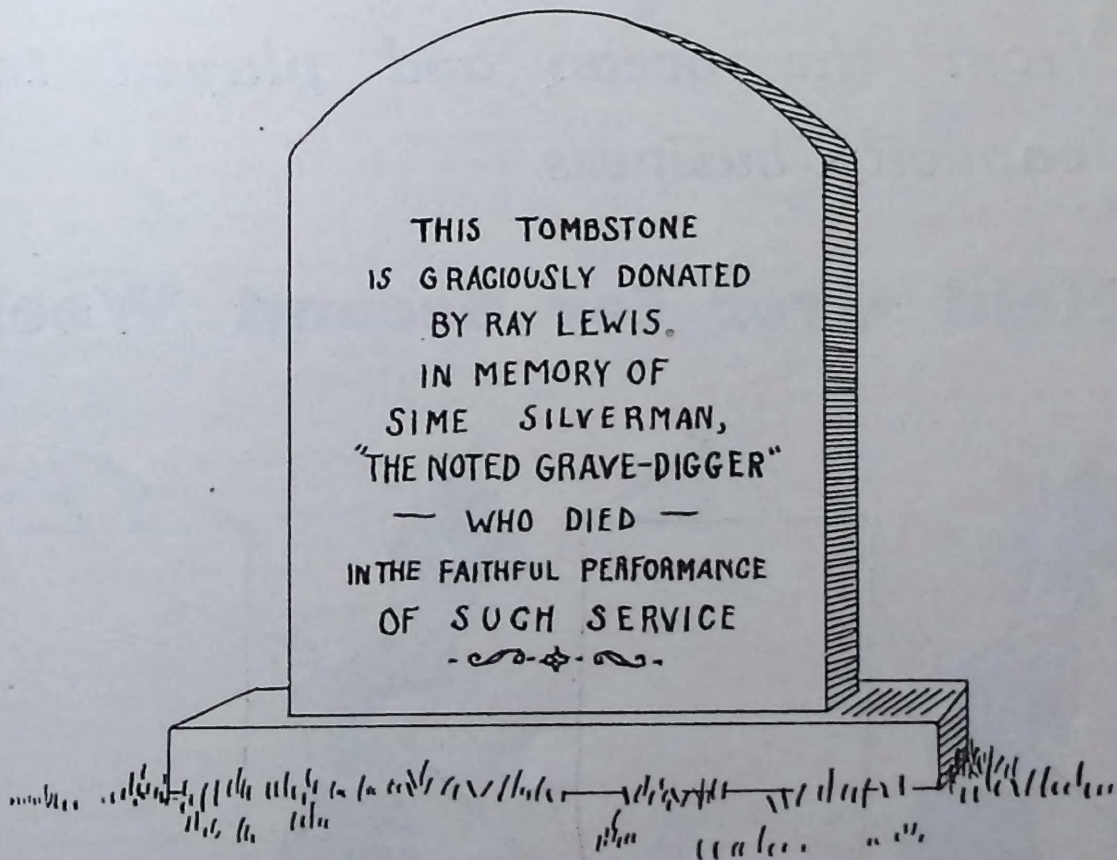
Vol. 21, No. 5.

TORONTO 2, CANADA

June 1st, 1929

In Memoriam

*Those who dig a grave for others,
Fall into it themselves.*



"Rest In Pieces"

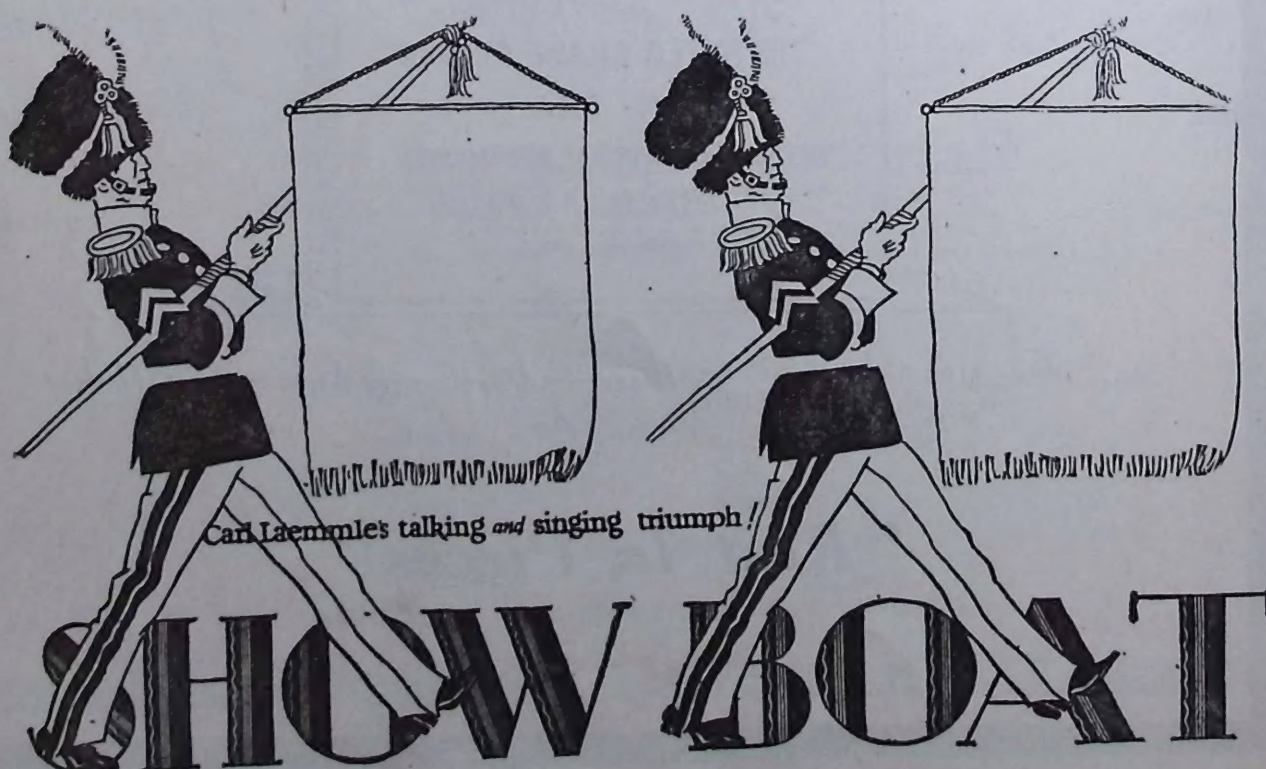
"SHOW BOAT"

"It attracted the largest hot weather crowds in Toronto theatre history"---

Streaming into The Uptown on the crest of the hottest week on record for this time of the year

It was as welcome as a breeze from the ocean and played to capacity business

Held Over for Second Week



RAINBOW



RAY LEWIS

PRESENTS

WE HAD some interesting visitors in Toronto during last week. George Weeks, "Good Old George," blew in and blew out before anyone had a chance to "look him over." "The Rainbow Man" opens at the Tivoli, Toronto, following "Weary River," which follows Al Jolson in "The Singing Fool." Advance reports state that everybody is satisfied to "Let George Do It," after seeing and playing "The Rainbow Man" with Eddie Dowling, and now George and Eddie are to do a few more.

Paul Berger, of United Artists, assistant to Al Lichtman, who by the way, can tell the best English story I have heard, was another visitor in Toronto. Mr. Berger, after a conference on sales policy with Mr. Masters, Canadian representative, left for Winnipeg.

JIMMY GRAINGER was another visitor. Rumours persist in associating both the British Gaumont with Famous Players Canadian Corp., and with the Fox Interests; and the appearance of Mr. Grainger in Toronto, his several conferences with Mr. Nathanson appear to give some colour to the rumours, even if it is only local colour.

Mr. N. L. Nathanson, accompanied by Mrs. Nathanson and their three children, sailed on the Aquitannia for England, from New York, Wednesday, May 29th. Mr. J. P. Bickell, on the Board of Directors of the Famous Players Canadian Corp., also sailed for England on the same liner.

His Honour, the Lieutenant-Governor W. D. Ross, a member of the Board of Directors of the Famous Players Canadian Corp., sailed for England, on the Empress of Scotland, leaving Montreal, Tuesday, May 28th.

ANOTHER officer of the Famous Players Canadian Corp., Comptroller Braggs, left for England last month. Interviews reveal the information that the object of this journey to England is for the purpose of enjoying an English holiday, but most of our big showmen have a facility for combining business with pleasure. The cards, according to gypsy lore, read Famous Players Canadian Gaumont British and Fox. Before Mr. Nathanson and his associates return we will be able to test the validity of card reading. Of course so many cards are missing from the deck, "up some of the players' sleeves," that the gypsy has to be more than a fortune-teller, somewhat of a magician, to read the missing cards. But in view of the mergers and affiliations, to use an oft quoted colloquialism, "we ain't heard the half of it yet."

Mr. Sidney Chalu of Radio Industries of Canada, Limited, was another visitor in Toronto, together with Mr. Hutchins, one of the promoters of this company. Offices have been

opened in the Brock Bldg., Toronto, the head office being in the Birk Building, Winnipeg.

It is the purpose of this company to build a three hundred thousand dollar factory in Winnipeg, where the parts of the non-synchronous Columbia Theatrephone, a product of the Columbia Phonograph, will be assembled, introducing a new industrial enterprise for the Dominion.

Offices will be established across the Dominion. A synchronous attachment will also be manufactured, and all this equipment will be fully licensed for theatre distribution and use.

THE MAIL & EMPIRE of May 29th, has an interesting editorial headed, "Poisoning The Springs of Public Information," by J. V. McAree. Apropos of the International Paper & Power Corporation's ownership of newspapers.

The article supplies the information that "the Chicago Daily News, the Brooklyn Daily Eagle, the Albany Knickerbocker Press, the Albany Evening News, the Ithaca Journal News, the Boston Herald, the Boston Traveler, the Chicago Journal, the Tampa Tribune, the Augusta (Georgia) Chronicle, the Columbia (South Carolina) Herald, and the Spartanburg Journal have been considerably shocked and alarmed to learn that these papers were all under heavy obligations to the International Paper & Power Corporation, unpopularly known as the "power trust."

The publication of ownership does not interest the public, any more than would the public be concerned about the ownership of mills where a certain cloth is woven which makes the clothes the public wear.

The question of whether the buyers purchased the newspapers to make public opinion favorable to Trusts, or simply as testified, as a protection for an outlet for this company's product, "paper," appears to be the concern of the Federal Trade Commission of the U. S., which in investigating has found that the interests of this company are 75% vested in Power.

It cost the International, according to Mr. Graustein's evidence, \$8,000,000 to buy into the papers mentioned; and an offer of \$20,000,000 was made for the Cleveland Plain Dealer.





Looking Them Over "Show Boat"



Laura La Plante and Joseph Schildkraut
as Magnolia and Ravenal in "SHOW BOAT"
A UNIVERSAL SUPER PICTURE

WE have heard a great deal about "Show Boat" from Universal's press department, from the press in general; and from the various officers of the Universal company.

Mr. Carl Laemmle appeared to enjoy giving the Trade, and the public, this feature; and that other very splendid showman, Ziegfeld, was also proud to be associated with the screen version of Edna Ferber's world famous book.

THERE is a reason, and the reason is that the Screen Version of "Show Boat" is all that has been said about it, all that has been promised for it. It is show business; and this means that it has been made to entertain, and that it does entertain.

It is a picture with "insides." Some might call it "Punch," others may say it has "sex appeal," others "heart appeal," others "box-office appeal." The only thing which counts is that it has within its make-up a combination of appeals which must appeal to all lovers of the screen.

HERE one finds song, pathos, tragedy, comedy, romance, love interest, a gripping story, interesting characterizations, quaint and loveable characters, flashes of historical records all moulded into a colorful presentation which carries you away with it; and makes this vision of pioneering show life as real as are our own lives.

THE direction by Harry Pollard is admirable; and considering the wealth of excellent material from which this picture had to be made, Director Pollard deserves added praise for his ability to extract and unite the most salient parts with skill and with artistry.

"Show Boat" is a big picture in every sense of this expression, and as important contributors to its success, is the outstanding performance of Joseph Schildkraut as Gay Ravenal, the gambler, and Laura La Plante as Magnolia.

SCHILDKRAUT as "Ravenal" has done the best work of his screen career; and in this part one caught glimpses of the art of Schildkraut's "Peer Gynt," which stamped him among the real artists of our stage.

I am glad that Schildkraut is such a success in the part. I suggested him during a conversation I had with Mr. Laemmle and Mr. Cockrane, prior to the making of the picture. I thought that the part would just suit him. It does, and as for his voice it has the real Sound Timbre which is worth its weight in Screen Gold at present.

LAURA LA PLANTE had a tremendous part to play, and she played it with a sincerity which gave the part the sympathy necessary to carry the heart appeal of this story. Her emotional scenes were outstanding. Otis Harlan as Captain Andy, Emily Fitzroy as "Parthenia," Alma Rubens as "Julie," were so true to the author's type that they might have just stepped out of her book.

THERE is plenty of hokum, but the hokum is in the book; and since the public like "sob stuff," it pays to make them cry. At any event no exhibitor who plays "Show Boat" will cry; and if his audience shed a few tears, they are the kind of tears which register at the box-office; and make the ladies say, "I cried and cried and just had a wonderful time."

We must not forget to mention that in addition to the dramatic element "Show Boat" has the famous Ziegfeld songs and music.

LOEW'S—Manager Jules Bernstein. "The Voice of the City," an M-G-M All Talking feature.

PANTAGES—Manager Fred Shafer. "Conquest," featuring Monte Blue and Lois Wilson. A Warner Bros. production.

HIPPODROME—Manager C. J. Appel. "Pawns of Passion," starring Olga Chekova. A World Wide Production.

TIVOLI—Manager Tom Daley. "The Singing Fool," starring Al Jolson. A Warner Bros. production. Fourth and final week.

Showmanship and Philanthropy

THERE is an announcement which places William Fox at the head of the N. V. A., and Pat Casey as treasurer. William Fox, like E. F. Albee, was "not born with a silver spoon in his mouth." He fought his way to success; and in the fighting developed a sense of proportion, a balance of action; and an understanding of the merits and demerits of success, a human comprehension of what constitutes achievement when the game of life becomes more retrospective than active.

AS head of the N. V. A. Mr. Fox steps into the position which Mr. E. F. Albee as builder, and Father of the N. V. A., created.

I know Mr. Fox well enough to know that he appreciates, like Elisha did Elijah's mantle, the Cloak of Service which has now descended to him; and which now envelops him as president of the N. V. A.

The clubhouse is a splendid institution. Equipped for the convenience and comfort, the recreation of its player-guests.

The sanitarium at Saranac Lake, will be opened next month. The Spirit of Mr. E. F. Albee, who promoted this Institution of Healing, will always pervade this place; and I feel that Mr. Fox will faithfully, and with Mr. Albee's zeal and sincerity, carry on that part of the work over which he will have full jurisdiction.

MEN may disagree in business, be indifferent to each other in material things, but the "things of the spirit," appeal and are in affinity with the spirit, and between spirit and spirit, there can be no indifference, nor enmities, for in service to our fellowmen there is no selfish urge, the self fades out of the picture, to make room for a close-up of the other fellow.

I cannot imagine Mr. Albee as disassociated from the N. V. A. I know that this venerable Showman hugged the N. V. A. to his breast, not only as a hobby, but as an outer expression of a spiritual core which grew up within his soul, like a flourishing tree, yielding its fruitage, in expressions of service.

THERE never was a leader in any field of service, spiritual or material, according to human definitions, who did not come in for criticism.

John The Baptist came to the people as an ascetic, and he was criticized for his austerity.

Jesus, the Christ, came to the people and mingled with publicans and sinners, and He was criticized for "being gluttonous and a wine-bibber," for associating with Magdalenes, embezzlers, liars and cheats.

Shakespeare, through the mouth of Hamlet, said, "Be thou as chaste as snow thou wilt not calumny."

THOSE who belong to the mob, who are spiritually and mentally in the "melting pot," arouse no attention; and are left to work out their mass-destiny unhampered, unless they get in the way.

But those who step out, who do things in life, for these, there are a million tongues with which to lash them, a million hands to drag them down, but as a compensation for this sordid reception, there are the Invisible Recorders, if one chooses to be figurative in speech, or mystical, who record their deeds of service on indestructible and inerascable tablets, and who draw these Builders up into the Kingdom of Heaven, which is that Peace which passeth understanding, the reconciliation of accepting with the Spirit the trials of life.

IT IS this philosophy which made Jesus on the Cross say, "Forgive them, Father, for they know not what they do." It is this philosophy which made Socrates drink the bitter hemlock, after he had refused to plead for his life, refused to escape. It is this spirituality which made this Father of Philosophy draw his cloak over his face and with this gesture make his exit with Death!

The mob which gave Socrates his poisonous drink for his services is the same mob which hands out poison to its benefactors today.

Mobs do not change, but despite this verity, Messiahs continue to be born to minister unto them!

MOSES gave up an Egyptian throne and Empire to lead the Jews out of their captivity into the Promised Land. He was their leader for forty years through the wilderness. Moses was told to go up on a mountain and die, that he would never see the Promised Land. To Joshua, the soldier, was given this boon. I cannot help but think of this story when I think of Mr. Albee and the Saranac Sanitarium, the N. V. A., what does it matter that some complain? The Children of Israel regretted that they left the "Fleshpots of Egypt." They cried for garlic, for onions, for graves in Egypt, in preference to Freedom and The Promised Land with its story of "milk and honey."

Keeping pace with the building and conserving processes of Life are the Destructive Forces. But woe unto those, or unto him who chooses to be used as a Destroyer of Good!

Mr. William Fox will make a powerful president. I look for big things from Mr. Fox; and I know that he and the majority of his associates will, when the time is ripe, honour the man who gave this very worth-while philanthropy into their keeping!

Louis B. Mayer Addresses Gathering Stanford University

FROM Stanford came President Herbert Hoover. And from Stanford came the men whose experiments started the actual creation of the motion picture.

"I would like to say here today that no one realizes more strongly the importance of motion pictures as an element in modern life than does President Hoover. He knows how much the motion picture has done to establish better world understanding and peace."

So Louis B. Mayer, producing head of the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer studios, and close friend of the nation's chief executive, told a notable audience at Stanford University, on the occasion of the Golden Jubilee of motion pictures.

AT THE UNIVERSITY where Governor Leland Stanford, John D. Isaacs, and Edward Muybridge experimented, half a century ago, to film "progressive motion" or running horses, and thus start the line of experiment that led to the present day moving picture, Mayer heading a delegation from the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, paid vivid tribute to the men who started the invention, and the men who today are making it one of the most vital of world factors.

VISUAL and oral education by motion pictures, Mayer predicted, will be one of the bulwarks of public instruction of the future; world understanding and peace will be the direct result of them; Universities will be actively benefited by their possibilities.

Mayer's address, before the university students, distinguished visitors and faculty, was one of the events in a two day's program in honor of the original motion picture discovery. Mr. and Mrs. William deMille (Clara Beranger), John Considine, Donald Crisp, Alec B. Francis, Major Nathan, Levinson and Louis Tollhurst, famous experts on motion pictures of microscopic life, were others in the Academy delegation.

THE EVENT commemorated was the work of a photographer, Muybridge, who, with the aid of Stanford and Isaacs, produced photographs of the progressive motion of a horse running, by means of rows of cameras "tripped" by strings the animal touched as he ran. This led to further experiments in motion photography that ultimately resulted in Edison's perfection of the present day form of camera with film.

ORIGINAL Muybridge photographs were shown, original Edison pictures, and others marking various stages of progress down to the present day, when President Hoover and Secretary Wilbur were shown on the screen—and addressed the gathering in talking picture speeches.

"To give you an idea of the size of the Industry that has grown out of it all, I would like to mention that it is based on an investment of two billion dollars," Mayer told his audience. He cited such modern developments as "Ben Hur," "The Broadway Melody," and "The Big Parade" as instances of artistic progress along with the scientific. Though less than ten per cent of the theatres in America are equipped for talking pictures at present, he predicted that the entire twenty thousand would soon be so wired.

THE PART of universities in the work, he stated, is now most important. "We have for many months had college professors at the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer studios," he stated, "studying pictures at close range to teach

motion picture technique at leading universities. Here, with the advent of sound, is a great field for the college man of today."

"Also for the teacher. I do not think it will be long before colleges will be able to supplement their courses with talking picture lectures by leaders in thought from all parts of the world."

New Cinematographers Local Makes Its Bow

ORGANIZED six weeks ago, with a membership now of 29 cameramen, representing every large centre of population in the Dominion, Canadian Society Cinematographers and Photographers, local 665, is away to a flying start. Already it is the proud boast of this local that its membership includes more than 90 per cent. of the eligible cameramen of the Dominion.

At its inception, Vice-President Francis E. O'Byrne, who presided, stated that it was the intention of the members to raise the status of Canadian cameramen to that enjoyed by their brothers across the line.

PRIOR to the formation of local 665," stated Mr. O'Byrne, "Canadian cameramen led a most uncertain existence. Salaries were whatever employers cared to pay, hours were long and there was no extra pay assured for overtime. Men could be discharged for any reason whatever and foreign cameramen could come here and compete without having to conform to any regulations whatever.

"It was a sore spot to Canadians to see inexperienced free lance cameramen from across the line come over here and line up jobs, posing as men with years of experience in Hollywood. These fly-by-nighters would make pictures, collect most of the money due and be far away from the scene of their photographic activities before the firm for whom the picture was made found out that they had an almost useless film in their hands. This hurt production in Canada for a firm once gyped this way felt none too kindly toward motion picture men. They believed it was impossible to make pictures in Canada, due to the lack of some essential quality in the atmosphere or some other reason equally absurd. Now that there is a recognized union in Canada of motion picture cameramen it is hoped that this prejudice can be overcome.

FORMATION of local 665 will do much to elevate the Industry in Canada. It will eliminate the inexperienced cameramen and by so doing will re-establish the confidence of the Canadian public in Canadian-made pictures, it will improve the position of the cameramen themselves, thus providing an incentive for better work and it will dignify the selling, lending a prestige to cinematography in Canada which it hitherto did not enjoy."

Officers of the new local are: President, Len. H. Roos; Vice-President, Francis E. O'Byrne; Secretary-Treasurer, Norman A. Gunn; Press Representative and Business Manager, A. M. Beattie.

MESSRS. N. C. BUTLER and James Byers, Saskatoon financiers, were associated with Famous Players in the construction of the Capitol Theatre, Saskatoon. Mr. Jack Arthur, Musical Director of Famous Players' theatres, and Mr. H. M. Thomas attended the opening.

Chevalier With Paramount

EQUIPPED with knowledge of English learned from a fellow prisoner during 26 months in a German prison camp during the war, Maurice Chevalier, France's greatest singer of songs, made his first all-talking motion picture in Hollywood for Paramount, the company that brought him to America.

Chevalier of the military class of 1913, was among the first of France's reserves called to go to the front in 1914. He fought valiantly during the early campaigns but was wounded almost fatally by shrapnel late in that year — wounded so seriously that his comrades believed him dead and left him on the field. He was picked up by German stretcher bearers and sent to the hospital of the prison camp at Alten Grabow.

IT was there in this camp that he formed the friendship with the English officer, a fellow prisoner, which gave him his excellent knowledge of the English tongue. Since that time, of course, Chevalier has added to that knowledge until now he speaks English fluently and well; so well in fact that a few years ago he was co-starred with Elsie Janis in an American revue in the Palace music hall in London.

CCHEVALIER'S all-talking, all-singing picture is "Innocents of Paris." In it the romantic, dashing Chevalier sings eight songs under circumstances varying from a love song to a beautiful girl in a park, a soldier song for a little boy, and a rousing song in a cafe of the Flea Market district of Paris to a triumphant offering from the stage of Paris' chief theatre.

Sylvia Beecher has the leading feminine role and Margaret Livingston, Mr. and Mrs. George Fawcett,

John Miljan and Russell Simpson are in important parts. Richard Wallace directed from a screen play and dialogue written by Ernest Vajda.

Eighteen Song Writers With Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer

Eighteen song writers and composers are now under contract to Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, while another group of writers left for the coast Monday, May 20, with Jack Robbins, publisher of all the M-G-M music.

Among those in the new detachment of Broadway musical talent en route to Hollywood this week, are Ray Egan, author of "Till We Meet Again" and "Japanese Sandman," with his music-writing partner, Vincent Rose; Dr. William Art, musical director of the Capitol Theatre; and a large staff of musical arrangers and orchestration experts.

The list of lyric writers and composers now working at the M-G-M studios includes Martin Broones, one of "Tin Pan Alley's" best-known lyricists; Joe Trent, only colored lyric writer now engaged in picture work, the author of "Muddy Waters" and other bits; Fred Fisher, considered the most prolific of all the ex-Broadway composers; Lou Alter, who wrote "Blue Shadows"; Gus Edwards, song and melody writer and producer of a variety of musical diversifications; Jesse Greer, author of "The Flapperette"; Raymond Klages, who did the entire book and the lyrics for "Sally, Irene and Mary"; Vincent Bryant, Louis Leeson and Jack King.

Among the "teamed" lyricists and melody writers who are under contract are Nacio Herb Brown and Arthur Freed, who did the entire score for the current talking picture hit, "The Broadway Melody," and have just completed many new songs for "The Hollywood Revue of 1929," Ballard MacDonald and Dave Dreyer; Milton Ager and Jack Yellen, lyric writer for "Rain or Shine"; Roy Turk and Fred Ahlert.

The Celcophone!!

Introducing our Disc Attachment for using Synchronous Records on Talking Pictures. Consists of heavy pedestal carrying reduction gear box, ball bearing turntable, pick-up bracket and pickup. It is adjustable to any height, sits on left of the projector near the mechanism and is directly connected to the mechanism by a steel shaft. And it operates silently and perfectly.

The Celcophone has many advantages. The turntable is mounted on ball bearings. All gears are machine cut and run in a bath of oil. The turntable is a steel stamping with flange, running true and not easily warped. The pedestal, with adjustable height column, carries the working parts, there is no attachment to the projector other than the connecting shaft, thus obviating any vibration from the projector.

The Celcophone can be attached to any Motiograph De Luxe, Powers or Simplex Projector in a few minutes. It is geared to revolve the Record at the synchronous speed. You may use your own amplifier and speakers or we will be glad to advise you on the purchase of either on request. Price per pair, including fader and booth speaker—\$750.00.

A. C. Speed Indicators, driven by flexible cable from shutter shaft, but causing no wear thereon, to meter similar to a speedometer showing film speed in feet per minute, very necessary to obtain correct speed, extra, per pair—\$85.00.

THE COLEMAN ELECTRIC Co. - 258 Victoria St. - Toronto, Ont.

"Courtesy With Service"

OBSERVATIONS

THE TORONTO PRESS herald the formation of a Canadian theatre merger in which the Radio-Keith-Orpheum Corporation and the Famous Players Canadian Corp., Limited, are involved.

The report states that a new company will be formed under the name of the Radio-Keith-Orpheum Canada, Limited, and the capital stock of which will be divided equally between Famous and Radio-Keith-Orpheum.

The new company will take over, it is said, the Capitol and Orpheum Theatres at Winnipeg, the new Orpheum and Vancouver theatres at Vancouver, the Keith Theatre at Ottawa, the Pantages in Toronto, and several other theatres across the Dominion, including theatres in Montreal, St. John, Hamilton, etc.

MR. J. M. FRANKLIN, Canadian Representative of the Radio Keith Theatres in Canada, and manager of Keith's, Ottawa, will have his office in the R.K.O. offices, Victoria St., Toronto. Sometime ago there were some negotiations between Famous and Mr. E. F. Albee in connection with the theatres in Canada personally under his control.

THE GOVERNMENT Motion Picture Bureau at Toronto will produce a "sportsmen movie," which will teach sportsmen in a "sporty fashion" the benefits of adhering to "game laws."

THE COVERED WAGON of Movietone News for Canadian events is now in Toronto; and will soon be on its way across the Dominion, photographing and recording in Sound, Canadian news and activities of interest. Lucien Roy is the cameraman in charge. Mr. Roy was born in Montreal, and in addition to his association with Associated Screen News, he has stood behind the camera considerably during his Canadian career with various enterprises.

Mr. John Norwig is the man in charge of "Sound." The methods of operation are as simple as they are amazing, but like all miracles, it is the very simplicity of the accomplishment which accomplishes its objective.

MOVIEZONE NEWS has been stationed in Quebec since December, but unfavorable weather conditions made work impossible up to the middle of February, but now everything is set, and soon Canada will speak to us from our screens.

THE CANADIAN Supreme Court ruling declares that the German Schloemitch-Von Bronck radio patents anteceded the Alexanderson patents of the General Electric Co.

The German invention was taken over by the U. S. Government when other German assets became a part of the "spoils of War."

The General Electric entered suit in the New York courts to establish the Alexanderson title. It appears that no one appeared to oppose or defend the Von Bronck title and judgment was given for the General Electric.

COL. J. L. McMULLAN in charge of patent work for the U. S. Government, appeared before the Senate Committee on interstate commerce, and is reported as having said, "the danger of a patent monopoly is applesauce." The Colonel informed the Committee of the decision as handed down by the Supreme Court in Canada.

THE ASSOCIATED BRITISH CINEMAS report shows a year's profit of over one half of a million, or £120,000.

The directors of Associated British, of which John Maxwell is the Chairman, propose to increase the capital of the company by five millions.

This will be arranged by the creation of 1,000,000 7½% cumulated preference shares of £1. The total capital of the company will then be approximately ten million, or £2,000,000.

BRITISH FILMCRAFT has tied up with Paramount for a "talkie" production which is to be made at Walthamstow, England, and the sound version at Paramount's Long Island studio. Capt. George Banfield, Supervisor of British Filmcraft Productions, recently visited New York and effected the tie-up.

SAM GOLDWYN has been made an offer to head a British film company. Mr. Goldwyn, who is at present associated with United Artists, recently visited London and is now in Paris.

THE CANADIAN International Film Company, which produced "Carry On Sergeant," has been discharged from bankruptcy by Justice Orde at Osgoode Hall, when counsel for the Dominion Printing Co., and The Canadian Moving Picture Digest withdrew his petition for a receiving order.

THE EMPIRE THEATRE property, 41, 43, 45, 47 Temperance Street, has been purchased for \$325,000. The vendor, Mrs. Della Stair, and the purchaser, H. J. Isbell, mining broker of Montreal. The theatre is to be demolished and a sixteen story office building erected on the site.

QUEBEC posters will be censored in accordance with the provincial law. "We have ordered the poster inspector to come to Quebec and conduct an investigation. No poster can be published without first having been approved by the Censor, and we will take proceedings against those who fail to comply with the law," states Premier Taschereau.

JOHAN NELSON has been appointed Manager of the Capitol, North Bay. Mr. Nelson has been manager of the Grand, Sudbury, and was at one time manager of the Royal Theatre at North Bay.

Mr. Nelson is a native of North Bay. He was recently a travelling representative of Famous Players, for which company he assumes the management of the Capitol Theatre.

THE CAPITOL THEATRE at Saskatoon opened its doors to an audience which numbered thousands. It was the first introduction of "Talkies" and "Close Harmony" was the feature attraction, while Mack Sennett's successful laugh-getter, "The Lion's Roar" was the comedy.

The theatre is described as being particularly beautiful, resembling one of the "European Opera Houses," luxurious in its appointments, and spacious in its architectural design.



Show Business



The first stench bomb outrage in Canada took place during a performance at the Palace Theatre, Windsor, Ontario, when the throwing of a bottle containing acetic acid and manure caused the large crowd of patrons to stampede, no casualties resulting however. Police claim the local labor unions were to blame because the theatre had been picketed some months after Manager H. C. Merritt had fired the union orchestra. Sound equipment had recently been installed in the theatre. John P. McKay, secretary of the Windsor Trades and Labor Council, was interviewed at Police Headquarters but denied that any union man had done the trick. No arrests have been made.

Harold Bishop, manager of the Capitol Theatre, Edmonton, Alberta, is not advertising that current programs are synchronized. The house has been wired for some weeks and a recent large newspaper display did not contain any reference to audiens other than the mention of "Fox Movietone News."

The Gaumont British Corporation of Canada, Limited, distributing Gaumont productions in the Dominion, is said to have dropped the plan for the construction of a chain of Gaumont theatres in Canada. Gaumont pictures are being released through Canadian Universal, the latest to be marketed being "Palais de Danse."

P. J. Nolan is building an extensive addition to his Avalon Theatre property in Ottawa, Ontario, this handsome suburban house having been opened only last December with a policy of second run synchronized pictures.

Moving picture censors in both Ontario and Quebec are getting in some very heavy work in the chopping of synchronized features. Many deletions were made in "Desert Nights," starring John Gilbert, for instance, with the result that the audiences hear music but see nothing for numerous film stretches. Crowds at the Imperial Theatre, Ottawa, during the week of May 20 laughed at the ludicrous effect but it is felt that many pictures so ruined would seriously injure the cause of audiens. The Quebec censors made a mess of "Syn-copation" for little or no reason and Montreal theatre crowds grew sore.

J. M. Franklin, manager of B. F. Keith's Theatre, Ottawa, Ontario, has added to his impressive art collection by the importation from London of 12 original Baxter prints, including sketches of the Duke of Wellington, Sir Robert Peel and Lord Nelson. Franklin has a buying agent in London and his gallery boasts several "finds."

Reformers in Brockville, Ontario, gathered the local women for a meeting at which a demand was formulated for "clean talking pictures" to be presented in theatres of Eastern Ontario on Fridays and Saturdays so that children could attend the shows on these days without seeing and hearing too much. The meeting was held in the First Presbyterian Church, Brockville.

If there was ever any hope of having Sunday shows in Ottawa, Ontario, the idea might as well be dropped because of the latest crusade by the police department against Sunday trade activities. During the week of May 20 no less than 107 local store-keepers were haled to court to face charges under the Lord's Day Act. They had not been molested for months but now you cannot buy even an aspirin.

Gaumont-Tiffany Combine

SIGNATURES have been affixed to contracts in which the Gaumont Company of Great Britain become the distributors of all Tiffany-Stahl productions in the British Isles. Such pictures are to be distributed under the name of Gaumont-Tiffany while pictures made by the Gaumont people in England are to be distributed in the United States under the name of Tiffany-Gaumont.

Negotiations which have been going on for some time were concluded on Wednesday, May 22nd, at the Home Office of Tiffany-Stahl, 729 Seventh Avenue, New York City, with William Gell, Managing Director of the Gaumont Company of England; Arthur Lee, the American representative of Gaumont in New York; Grant L. Cook, vice-president of Tiffany-Stahl, and William Fitelson, in charge of the Law Division of Tiffany-Stahl.

CONTRACTS were also signed for the joint production of a number of super features, part of which will be made in the United States and part in England. A representative of Tiffany-Stahl will be assigned to the Gaumont Studios in England and a representative of Gaumont will be assigned to the Tiffany-Stahl Studios in Hollywood, in an advisory capacity.

This producing and distributing agreement is of world wide importance as the Gaumont Company is considered to be one of the leading producers and distributors of Europe, having control of hundreds of theatres throughout Great Britain, while Tiffany-Stahl has within the past few years made its name known throughout the world.

BOTH organizations will join forces in handling their product for the balance of the world market. Tiffany-Stahl will handle such material through their various subsidiaries and Gaumont will do the same in such parts of the world as Tiffany-Stahl is not represented and where Gaumont have their subsidiaries.

It is understood that there will be an interchange of both American and British stars in the productions contemplated and that writers and playwrights of international fame will be engaged to write original dialogue stories for the screen and that the best directorial talent of both America and England will be engaged for the filming of the pictures.

THIS producing and distributing arrangement places Tiffany-Stahl in a very commanding position both in the United States and in Europe as one of the leading international producing and distributing organizations.

Round About the Studios

Possibly on account of her long and varied experience in films, Eve Grey (the charming English actress who first made a big name in Australia before appearing in London) was selected to play the part of the slave girl in "The Shanghai Gesture," the play concerning a Chinese house of ill fame which has been banned by the Censor. The play was presented by the Venturers' Society, and Miss Grey's part, although one of the most important, is a silent one. She does not have a line to speak, which is really a pity as she has a beautiful speaking voice. Miss Grey will shortly be seen as Jill in the screen version of "Sweet Pepper."

Joe Brandt, President of Columbia Pictures, accompanied by his wife, returned to New York, Friday (May 24) on the S. S. Statendam after a three months' business trip abroad which took him to the principal production and distribution centers of England and Europe. During his stay Mr. Brandt made a complete survey of the talking picture situation on the other side, and completed several important arrangements for more intensive distribution activities of Columbia productions abroad.

Dialogue sequences are now being recorded at the Mack Sennett sound studios for the Tiffany-Stahl production "Whispering Winds" directed by James Flood, with David Hartford, well known stage director, co-directing on the dialogue. The picture has an all-star cast, including Patsy Ruth Miller, Malcolm McGregor, Eve Southern, Eugenie Besserer and James Marcus.

Harry Edwards, former director for Harry Langdon and "Baby Peggy," is directing "Camera Crank," a Universal two-reel comedy starring Sid Saylor.

Edwards, who directed several episodes of Universal's popular "Collegian" series, may be assigned to direct a comedy starring Sonny McKeen, Universal's child star, upon the completion of the Saylor picture.



Joyce Murray, a newcomer to the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer lot.



Beautiful Anita Page, who helped to make M-G-M's "Broadway Melody" the success it is.

Morton Downey, whose current Broadway appearance is in "Mother's Boy" at the George M. Cohan Theatre and who has recently completed "Lucky In Love" at the Pathe Sound Studios, is spending a brief vacation at White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia. Barbara Bennett (Mrs. Morton Downey), who also appears in "Mother's Boy," accompanied the star.

Production of "The Climax," all-dialogue and music adaptation of Edward Locke's famous stage play of the same name, has been completed at Universal. "The Climax," directed by Renaud Hoffman, stars Jean Hersholt with Kathryn Crawford, LeRoy Mason, John Reinhardt and Henry Armetta composing the cast.

"Speedway," a racing story to be made in Indianapolis, with realistic scenes of the big annual auto race there, is William Haine's new starring vehicle for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer.

Harry Beaumont, who made the sensationally successful "Broadway Melody," is directing the new picture.

"The Early Bird," an original song, has been written for Moran and Mack's first all-talking picture, "Why Bring That Up" now in production at the Paramount studios in Hollywood.

It will be used as one of the three songs to feature stage acts which are included in the picture.

Patsy Ruth Miller and Arthur Rankin have been selected as the romantic leads of Columbia's talking special which will be brought to the screen under the direction of Frank Trayer. As a rollicking comedy of domestic tribulations "The Fall of Eve" introduces not only an entirely different type of talking picture from the current offerings of melodramas, mysteries and musical comedies, but also marks the debut of the two popular players as talking stars.

Maurice Chevalier, French music hall favorite, in Hollywood, under contract to Paramount, sponsored the American tour of Kid Francis, able Parisian bantam-weight.

Lawrence Gray, who appeared with Norma Shearer in "After Midnight," and with Marion Davies in "The Patsy," has been given the male lead opposite Miss Davies in the all-talking version of "Marianne" which goes into production this week.

Neil Hamilton has been assigned by Paramount to play one of the principal roles in "Illusion," the all-talking film of Arthur Train's latest novel dealing with a young magician's adventures in modern metropolitan society. Charles "Buddy" Rogers and Nancy Carroll, who were co-featured in "Close Harmony," again will appear together in "Illusion." June Collyer also has one of the prominent roles. The German director, Lothar Mendes, will direct.

Miss Blackstone, who has been featured over both the Loew and Keith time, and is one of New York's most prominent night club artists, has just been signed by the Shuberts for one of their musical shows of the coming season.

Basil Smith, directed "Snappy Co-Eds" which was produced by Columbia in association with the Victor Talking Company. Henrietta Kay, Marion Byrne and Elaine Melcher head the cast of Broadway singers and dancers who support Miss Blackstone.

The Tiffany-Stahl talking and singing production "New Orleans," a Reginald Barker special, has just been completed and has been shipped to the Home Office in New York, according to a wire received by Grant L. Cook, Vice-President, from John M. Stahl. The principle roles in "New Orleans" are played by Ricardo Cortez, Alma Bennett and Buster Collier.

The Duncan Sisters, famous stage team who made their motion picture debut in "Topsy and Eva," have been signed by Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer for a feature talking-and-singing picture, tentatively titled "Cotton and Silk."

Sam Wood, who is now making "College Days" at the Culver City studio, will direct the new film.



Eddie Gribbon, appearing in "Two Men and a Maid," for Tiffany.

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